

In spite of these difficulties, Poudre Valley Hospital continues to provide a great service to Fort Collins and the surrounding area. Additionally, I would like to thank Army Hall, Carl Smith, and Lesley Fagerberg for their time and for their commitment to the health care profession.

TRIBUTE TO WANDA WASHINGTON  
HOPKINS

**HON. JULIAN C. DIXON**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from the great state of Missouri, the Honorable WILLIAM L. CLAY, in saluting an outstanding businesswoman and good friend, Mrs. Wanda Washington Hopkins. On Thursday, September 17, 1998, the National Federal of Black Women Business Owners will honor their fellow board member as she prepares to retire after a distinguished career of 31 years with Philip Morris Companies, Inc. We have been privileged to have known and worked with Wanda for most of her career with Philip Morris Companies, and are especially proud to have this opportunity to highlight her many achievements with our colleagues.

Born June 6, 1997, in New York City, New York, Wanda joined Philip Morris Companies in 1967. During her profession, she has held the positions of sample distributor and urban affairs assistant, rising to her current position of Specialist, Public Programs, which includes managing the Philip Morris corporate exhibit.

Prior to joining Philip Morris Companies, Wanda worked for the District of Columbia and Federal governments, as well as for Howard University. In addition, she worked for the Washington Teachers Union along with several laws firms in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Wanda's professional and personal life has been dedicated to helping to enrich the lives of the disenfranchised, and to ensuring that children, born not of privilege, have every opportunity to pursue his/her dreams through higher education. She has served as the social conscience of Philip Morris Companies in seeing to it that hundreds of thousands of the company's corporate profits have been directed to programs to benefit educational excellence, and to uplifting communities once bereft of hope. And that's just her corporate influence.

In her personal endeavors, she has for years been involved in numerous business, professional, and social organizations. One in particular, the Justice, Unity, Generosity, and Service, Inc. club, or J.U.G.S., Inc., a non-profit organization that awards scholarships and benefits handicap children, has been near and dear to her heart. Over the years, she has worked selflessly to raise funds for this organization. Because of her efforts and commitment to the kids, children who were once written off, can now look forward to programs designed to help them reach their potential, beyond the expert's expectations.

In addition to her work with the J.U.G.S., she is a member of the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners, the National Association of Market Developers, the NAACP and the National Urban League.

In recognition of her many years of distinguished professional service and contributions to society, Wanda has received numerous awards and honors, including the Shiners Award for Professional Excellence, the National Association of Business and Professional Women's Clubs Yellow Rose" citation, the National Business League Presidential Citation, and the West Coast Black Publishers and Association President's Award. This summer, at the NAACP's annual National Convention, Wanda became the first individual to receive the organization's Exhibitors' Special Recognition Award. She is also the recipient of the National Urban League's Herbert H. Wright Medallion.

Wanda Washington Hopkins is a woman of savvy intelligence and tremendous warmth and integrity. Over the years, she has consistently demonstrated the utmost professionalism and paved the way for other young women aspiring to make it corporate America. She has been an outstanding role model and mentor to many young women, and she can take great pride in knowing of the enduring contributions she has made in helping to empower other African American professional women through the corporate maze.

Married to Everett Hopkins, she is the mother of seven children, one of whom is now with the angels, but who lives on her heart and in the hearts of family and friends. She is also the proud grandmother of four.

Mr. Speaker, it gives us great pleasure to have this opportunity to publicly recognize the tremendous accomplishments of this distinguished human being. She is a beautiful person, an individual that we are proud to call our friend. Throughout her many years with Philip Morris Companies, Wanda has probably spent about 85% of her time traveling from city to city, exhibiting at one exhibit site after another. As she prepares to embark on a new chapter in her life, we ask first that you join us in extending to her a well-deserved rest. Second, please join with us in extending to her, Everett and their extended family our best wishes for continued success, excellent health, and an abundance of prosperity in the years ahead.

THE PALOS VERDES PENINSULA  
LAND CONSERVANCY: CELEBRATING A DECADE OF DISTINGUISHED EFFORT TO PRESERVE UNDEVELOPED LAND ON THE PENINSULA

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy for a decade of resolute effort to preserve, restore, and protect acres of undeveloped land on the Palos Verdes Peninsula in California's 36th Congressional District.

As a result of their efforts, the Conservancy has successfully preserved for future generations nearly 260 acres of narrow, lush canyon and sweeping ocean vistas that comprise the

Peninsula landscape. These acres, acquired through gifts, purchases and voluntary easements, are now protected and will remain forever available for enjoyment and inspiration. Residents and guests alike will continue to live side-by-side with some of the most scenic natural beauty found anywhere in Los Angeles County, if not our State.

As important to preservation, the Conservancy also maintains a commitment to restoring natural habitat and sustaining native wildlife. Their programs include organizing volunteers to clear out non-native plants, gathering seeds to nurture and then returning the seedlings to the land. And, in cooperation with the school district, all third grade students study the geology and natural habitat of the Peninsula, then walk to a site near their school to see, first hand, the plants, animals and rocks they studied. For the other residents, the Conservancy provides monthly docent-guided nature walks to explore more intimately the habitats with which they co-exist.

Looking toward the future, the Conservancy has targeted an additional 1,000 acres for preservation and conservation. In addition, with the help of an investment banking company, work will continue to develop innovative conservation finance tools to help resolve inevitable natural resource—land use conflicts. This conservation finance approach promises to become a major factor in land conservation efforts nationwide.

The success of the Conservancy rests on a foundation of visionary, dedicated volunteers from the local community. But I also commend the participation of local city, county, state and federal governments officials; the donors of land, time and talent; local publications, and civic groups and private foundations. Their efforts have magnified the success of the Conservancy.

Over the past ten years, sizable patches of open space has been saved to ensure the survival of plants and wildlife and, equally important, enhance the quality of life for the people of the Palos Verdes Peninsula. As the Congressional representative of the Peninsula, and resident, I salute the Conservancy's achievements and join with them in working to secure success which future generations will enjoy.

PRINCIPAL BETSY DUMPH AND  
HUDSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, during the recent district work period, Principal Betsy Dumph opened the doors of Hudson Elementary School and shared her experience as the principal of this small town school.

Hudson Elementary serves children from the area around Hudson, CO, including other smaller towns, family farms and ranches. This thriving, brightly decorated school shares some of the challenges of its urban counterparts and some distinctions, too.

Principal Dumph has worked hard to assemble a strong staff of professional educators. Unfortunately, Colorado's tenure system has proven an obstacle to this effort. She told my

staff that it took three years to remove a particular teacher who routinely slept through classes. Fortunately, she was able to bring in many motivated teachers and aides who are as interesting in learning as they are in teaching.

Special education has presented a tough challenge to Hudson Elementary. Principal Dumph is committed to the ideal of educating special needs children. Several people on staff are dedicated to just that. However, she recognizes the need for changes to the law. Currently the law does not allow principals to expel dangerous students. Hudson has already witnessed one tragic killing from a violent student who could not be expelled because of federal laws. Now he is receiving special care, but the price has been another's life. Additionally, the federal government has not paid its promised share for special education mandates. The money makes a big difference to a small farming town school.

One of the greatest frustrations is that children are not coming to school prepared to learn. The simple things which teachers once could take for granted are not mastered before kindergarten today. Many children do not have the foundations for learning. They do not have a basic level of language or recognition of patterns. Teachers have to take several steps back before moving forward. Parental involvement before and during formal education is essential.

In the face of these challenges, Hudson Elementary School continues to provide a good solid education to the kids of eastern Colorado. I would like to thank Principal Dumph for her time and her commitment to education.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES LOCHREY  
HARRIS

**HON. JULIAN C. DIXON**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my distinguished colleague and friend from Missouri, the Honorable William L. Clay, in paying tribute to a giant of a man, Mr. James Lochrey Harris. Jim, as he is affectionately known to all who have had the pleasure of working with him during this long and distinguished profession, is retiring as the General Sales Manager of the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel after an illustrious career spanning 31 years and 4 months. On Thursday, October 1, 1998, Jim's family, Hilton colleagues, and numerous friends will gather at a retirement gala in his honor. In recognition of his exemplary career, we are proud to have this opportunity to share this brief retrospective of the life of Jim Harris with our colleagues.

A native Washingtonian, Jim Harris was born on August 21, 1935. He attended public schools in the District of Columbia, and graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in Psychology from George Washington University.

Standing tall at 6' 4", Jim is a giant of a man—both literally and figuratively. He is one

of the finest individuals that we have had the privilege of working with for more than two decades. Jim joined the Hilton family in 1967 as the hotel's Convention Service Representative. During his career with the Hilton family, he has held the positions of Assistant Convention Service Manager, Convention Service Manager, Sales Manager, and finally, General Sales Manager. Throughout his tenure, he has been an individual of inestimable good humor, patience and good will—and individual who has consistently demonstrated the utmost professionalism and integrity.

It is almost impossible for us to think about the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel and not think about Jim Harris. He has been instrumental in bringing hundreds of major conventions and conferences to this city, and is perhaps best known not only for his impeccable professionalism and attention to detail, but his kind and gentle nature as well. A modest man, Jim would be the last person to claim the well-deserved credit for training and serving as mentor to several of this city's hotel sales executives, many of whom began their careers at the Hilton under his tutelage.

Jim has received numerous awards in appreciation for his distinguished service to the hotel and convention industry, including the Credit Union National Association's "Appreciation Award for 18 Years of Service; the National Dental Association's Appreciation Award for 18 Years of Service; the National Dental Association's Outstanding and Consistent Service Award," and the Hilton hotels Corporation, Eastern Region's "Excellence in Sales Awards." To this, we would like to proclaim Jim Harris the General Sales Manager's preeminent General Sales Manager of the hotel and convention industry.

Mr. Speaker, although Jim is retiring and will be sorely missed by a multitude of people, he has made enduring contributions to the hotel and convention industry which shall serve as an important part of his legacy. We will miss him, but are pleased that he will now have more time to spend with his cherished wife Gerta, and their beloved son, James Patrick Harris, a junior at Brown University. It has been a genuine pleasure to work with Jim and we wish him continued success as he embarks on the next chapter of his life. We extend to him, Gerta, and James our best wishes for much happiness, excellent health, and bountiful prosperity in the years to come.

CHARLES MYERS: RECOGNIZING A  
VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
TECHNICIAN

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to praise both an organization and an outstanding individual who significantly contributed to make that organization viable. The Yulan American Legion Ambulance service and Charles Myers have diligently served their community for more than 50 years with both service and skills beyond the call of any ambulance company or volunteer.

The Yulan American Legion Ambulance service was incorporated as a volunteer emer-

gency medical provider in 1948 by American Legion Post 1363 of Yulan, NY. That these Legionnaires recognized the need for an emergency medical provider years before the rest of the country is nothing short of extraordinary. Their service had its humble beginnings on November 7, 1948, with its first dispatch. Yulan's Ambulance Corps responded in its 1936 Packard Ambulance and began the history of a program that has grown over the past 50 years.

The tale of the Yulan American Legion Ambulance company is not the only story that began that night. Charles "Chuck" Myers, then a young serviceman, was on that ambulance car. This also began Mr. Myer's history as one of the most dedicated Emergency Medical Technicians in New York State. In the first half of this century there was not much training available for members of volunteer ambulance companies. The usual training these men and women received did not extend very far beyond basic CPR and First Aid, and it was not until the 1960's that the State began to organize classes which taught the skills of emergency medicine. Mr. Myers was one of the first participants in these pioneering new classes more than 30 years ago. Mr. Myers' devotion to the American Legion Ambulance company is just as strong today as it was on that night back in 1948.

The civic accomplishments of Mr. Myers did not end with his service on a volunteer ambulance company. Mr. Myers is also an instructor of American Red Cross CPR and First Aid. Not only is he now captain of the American Legion Ambulance company but he is also a member and one time captain of the Yulan Fire Department. He has served as a commissioner of public works and as a lay minister in the Yulan Congregational Church. His fellow citizens know him for acts of kindness such as personally delivering equipment, crutches, and hospital beds, in his spare time. If the recipients need instruction in the use of these aids Mr. Myers' provides it and, in the event that the sick are unable to return the equipment, he offers to pick up the equipment in their homes. Mr. Myers' devotion to his community is heart warming. He has logged more than 5,000 hours of service to the American Legion Ambulance company alone, and has served on more than 2,800 ambulance calls. There is no telling how many lives Mr. Myers is personally responsible for saving.

But Mr. Myers is more than a list of titles and accomplishments. He is a husband of 52 years to his devoted wife, Ruth, and a loving father to his son, Robert. He is also an avid collector of toy ambulances. He has displayed his collection at hospitals, trade shows, and even here in Washington, to help promote awareness for emergency medical services. We would be hard-pressed to find a man who has shown more devotion to his community, his state or his country, than Mr. Myers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in applauding both this man and the Yulan American Legion Ambulance Corps on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their joint achievements.